

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraphs [0010] and [0018] with the following paragraphs:

[0010] Figure 2 shows the amino acid sequence of the wild-type pyruvate carboxylase (SEQ ID NO:19), isolated from ATCC 21253. The specific changes corresponding to the amino acid sequence of the feedback-resistant pyruvate carboxylase (SEQ ID NO:2), isolated from Deposit Number NRRL B-11474, are indicated. ~~comparison of sequences between the wild type pyruvate carboxylase, isolated from ATCC21253, and the feedback resistant pyruvate carboxylase (SEQ ID NO:2), isolated from Deposit Number NRRL B-11474.~~

[0018] Another aspect of the invention is directed to nucleic acid molecules at least 90%, 95%, 97%, 98% or 99% identical to the nucleic acid sequence shown in Figure 1 (SEQ ID NO:1), or to the nucleic acid sequence of the deposited DNA (NRRL B-30293, deposited ~~May 30, 2000~~ May 12, 2000).

Please replace the paragraph that was added after paragraph [0067], per the Amendment filed August 22, 2003, with the following paragraph:

[0067.1] The feedback resistant pyruvate carboxylase gene of the present invention was isolated and cloned from NRRL B-11474. The isolated/cloned pyruvate carboxylase gene has been deposited in an *E. coli* host cell under deposit NRRL B-30293. Deposit Number NRRL B-30293 was deposited on May 30, 2003 May 12, 2000 at the Agricultural Research Culture Collection (NRRL), International Depository Authority; 1815 North University Street, Peoria, Illinois, 651064 U.S.A. All strains were deposited under the terms of the Budapest Treaty.